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TELEPHONE MAIN 661.

THE WEATHER

Oregon, Washington and Idaho—Fair.

STOPPED AT WARRENTON.

It has developed that the James J. Hill special, on leaving this city last Thursday night, ostensibly headed for Seaside, went direct to Warrenton and stopped there; that Mr. Hill and his chief engineer, and other officers went over each inch of the terminal holdings there; that Warrenton and the big terminals were the objectives of the long, straight-away trip from Pasco to the sea.

We are not surprised at Mr. Hill's interest in his terminals down this way; but why the secrecy of the stop there, and the non-continuance to Seaside, where he gave out, on leaving us, that he was headed? Perhaps some of the inspired ones who attended the \$3000 Portland banquet can solve the riddle for us.

That Mr. Hill, with a group of transcontinental associates, on a train made up of half a dozen coaches from as many separate lines, should make a 300-mile run direct to his sea-board holdings and spend six hours going over them, at night, may be an insignificant matter, and probably is; and we will leave it at that.

THE FOOL WHISTLE.

There is a wide crusade afoot all over the East against the useless and senseless whistle, and the un-earthly clanging bells, of commerce. It is spreading this way.

Astoria, through the Astorian, some months ago, registered a complaint about the invertebrate and nerve-racking whistles of the A. & C. engines as they ran through the city, whistling at every crossing, and that company at once put a stop to the nuisance, for which act the sick and suffering and nervous of the whole city have thanked them gratefully a thousand times.

The waterfront is yet alive with a wild medley of excruciating and utterly useless whistles, sent out at all hours of the day and night upon one pretext or the other. Many of these calls are essential, being established by the navigation codes and required by the federal statutes; but nearly as many, are mere customs and have no bearing as signals, that cannot be dispensed with. For instance, the time-call from the bay and river steamers, sounded 15 or 20 minutes before departure, and the long agonizing shriek sent resounding through space, five minutes before departure. These are absolutely non-essential. They are no more needed than the same signals from a departing train on the A. & C. railway.

The bar and river pilot-calls are similarly needless; there is no use blowing three or four howling blasts on the big whistles and cyrens of the deep sea craft for a pilot who is invariably on the lookout for the vessel he is to take to sea, or up the river, and probably stamping up and down the docks, growling because he has had to wait so blamed long for her to leave in sight. The matter is entitled to thorough overhauling and readjustment in the interests of peace and quietude. Cut out the calls that serve no purpose; eliminate every fool whistle that has no meaning. People can just as well get to a waiting steamer without a screaming summons, as to a waiting train at the depot.

For the sake of civilized comfort and modern adjustment and despatch, reduce the calls!

DIVERGENT OPINIONS.

Governor George Chamberlain said recently, to wit, at the Hill banquet in Portland last week, that "within five years Portland will be the greatest wheat shipping port in the world."

James J. Hill, who knows more about wheat in one minute than any Governor on the American roster, said, in this city, the day before that banquet, that "within five years the

people of the Pacific Slope will be shipping their wheat back East, instead of exporting westward from this coast."

Here is a conflict of opinion that may account, in a measure for Mr. Hill's positive declaration that "Spokane is to be one of the greatest shipping centers of the Northwest." Perhaps the wheat from the Northwest will find its way east through the Spokane market, with Portland holding an empty wheat sack out here at the head of tide-water. The spectre is a grisly one.

Despite the Governor's bright anticipation and Mr. Hill's reactionary program, we honestly believe that Mr. Hill is throwing a bit of dust in the Western eyes; that he is cleverly disguising a huge scheme to make Spokane, Portland, Astoria and the Columbia river, the markets and channels for the vastest system of wheat exportation ever known to man.

You never can tell exactly what James J. Hill means by what he says!

COMPETITION.

Speaking of wheat, it may be said, in passing, that the wheat crop of Oregon, Washington and Idaho is but about 44,000,000 bushels; a small portion of the world's crop. While the crop of the Argentine Republic, according to the latest and most reliable statistics, will not be less than 200,000,000 bushels. Which goes to show that we are not in it, as yet!

As in other years, the returns show that the percentage of liars amongst the voter is great. There was not a candidate who had not received enough pledges to elect him if they had all been carried out.

No man who obeys the law need fear; no corporation which follows the statutes need hesitate. This is the assurance which comes from Mr. Taft and it inspires confidence.

Having settled the presidential and gubernatorial contests, New York wakes up with a lively senatorial fight on her hands.

Just to show that there is no hard feeling, the man who voted for Bryan will have a share in our prosperity.

The Sultan of Turkey may have his troubles, but he doesn't have to go through a national election every four years.

The successful candidate now begins to wonder how he can keep all the promises he made last month.

The defeated candidate looks bright and chipper, compared with the jaded election judges and clerks.

Eugene V. Debs is the prize optimist; out of a decreased vote he obtains encouragement.

Seven Years of Proof.

"I have had seven years of proof that Dr. King's New Discovery is the best medicine to take for coughs and colds and for every diseased condition of throat, chest or lungs," says W. V. Henry, of Panama, Mo. The world has had 38 years of proof that Dr. King's New Discovery is the best remedy for coughs and colds, la grippe, asthma, hay fever, bronchitis, hemorrhage of the lungs, and the early stages of consumption. Its timely use always prevents the development of pneumonia. Sold under guarantee at Charles Rogers & Son's drug store. 50c and \$1. Trial bottle free.

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The steamer Lurline got down at 6 o'clock last evening, and left up an hour later with plenty of business on both decks, for Portland and way landings.

NEW YORK LETTER

NEW YORK, Nov. 3.—Officials of the Department of Health of this city, and also those officials of the United States Department of Agriculture who are charged with the enforcement of the Pure Food law, have been conducting a thorough examination into the charges recently made by officials of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union to the effect that "whiskey drops," in the form of chocolate and other candies filled with alcoholic liquors, have been openly on sale here at places patronized by women and children.

The charge in question was first brought to the attention of the W. C. T. U. by Mrs. Helen J. Andrus, President of the New York County branch of the organization. Mrs. Andrus, it seems, had been told by an acquaintance that such candies had been purchased by some young girls at a well-known New York confectionery shop. Then, without further investigation, the charge was spread broadcast. Naturally, the Agricultural Department and health officials were intensely interested because the Pure Food law specifically prohibits the sale of confectionery if, among other things, it contains "any vinous, malt or spirituous liquor or compound or narcotic drug," and serious penalties are imposed for violations of this provision, which is found in Section 7 of the Food and Drugs Act of June 30, 1908. The sanitary code of the local Board of Health contains, word for word, the same provision, in Section 68, subdivision "g."

Inspectors of both the Federal and city departments have been untiring in their activities in searching for violations of these provisions, for many months, and the sale of alcoholic-filled candies, it was believed, had been absolutely stamped out. However, they took to the trail once more and ascertained that the "whiskey drops" against which complaint was made did contain some sort of a liquid filling which, when analyzed, showed slightly less than 1-3 of one per cent. of alcohol. According to the officials, while this was a technical violation of the law and hence a case for reprimand, it was clearly not an intentional case of selling improper candies as the percentage of alcohol was almost infinitesimal and the filling absolutely harmless to consumers.

Bayard C. Fuller, Supervising Inspector of Foods of the local Department of Health, and Russell Raynor, Chief Sanitary Inspector of the same department, both declare as a result of their investigations that at the present time there is absolutely no sale of any such candies as those complained against any they furthermore declare that if any alcoholic candies were manufactured or offered for sale, the manufacturers and sellers would be arrested immediately and subjected to severe penalties.

Time was, up to the enactment of the Pure Food law, that some very expensive candies were manufactured containing cognac, burgundy, claret, white wines, and whiskey. These largely were used for dinners as a combination of liquor and confection. The idea was imported from Europe where candies of this character have a decided vogue. Immediately on the enactment of the Pure Food law, however, according to Department officials and confectioners, the manufacture of candies of this sort came absolutely to a standstill as no manufacturer would risk the penalties involved. Except in the case of filled candies, which are no longer made, it is absolutely impossible for any confectionery to contain alcohol, as the boiling process used in the manufacture absolutely eliminates by evaporation any trace of alcohol that might form a constituent part of the ingredients used.

An example of the enormous sums which the American people spend annually on luxuries is shown by the statement in the current number of the Confectioners' and Bakers' Gazette to the effect that the wholesale value of the candy output in the United States for the current year will exceed \$100,000,000. The cost to the consumers will run fully \$30,000,000, in excess of this sum this representing the profits of jobbers and retailers.

The manufacture of candies has been increasing by leaps and bounds for the last three decades until the total capital invested in this business and value of the finished product have reached tremendous proportions. And as candy must be classed as a luxury pure and simple, without any beneficial effect to the community at large, this increase is characteristic of the latter day spirit of the American people. According to the United States census figures the capital invested in the manufacture of confectionery was \$3,486,874 in 1880. This had increased in 1890 to \$23,326,799 in 1900 and as \$87,087,253 in 1905. Thus in 1908 the estimate of the organ of the trade in planning the wholesale value of the product at \$100,000,000 is conservative. At the present time there are approximately 1,500 factories engaged in this work.

According to Henry W. Hoops, President of the National Confectioners' Association, people in the trade figure the average value of the finished product, at the factory, at 15 cents a pound, so that the estimate of \$100,000,000 for the product this year would mean an output of approximately 667,000,000 pounds of candy, or nearly 8 1-2 pounds per annum for every man, woman and child in the United States. The amount of glucose, paraffine, cheap flavoring extracts and various deleterious substances used in producing this output can scarcely be guessed at. According to chemists and health officials paraffine is used even in the most expensive of chocolates. This is true to such an extent that the purchasers of chocolate candies annually treat their digestive organs to several tons of candies in this way.

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